GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2032
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2008
PROVISIONS FOR SCS STS IN LAND REFORM
Rajendran Shri P.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are special provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the National Land Reform Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) and (b): Land and its management falls within the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the respective States as provided under Entry No.18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution.The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is only advisory and coordinating. However,implementation of Land Reforms Programmes is reviewed from time to time at various fora including Conferences of Revenue Ministers and Revenue Secretaries of the States/UTs organized by the Ministry of Rural Development.The State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested from time to time for effective implementation of land reform programmes/schemes.The subject matter has,however,been considered at the highest level.In order to get comprehensive recommendations on the matter,it has been decided to constitute the following:

(i) A "Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms" under the chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development.

(ii) A "National Council for Land Reforms" under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.

The composition,terms of reference, etc. of the Committee and the Council were notified in the Official Gazette on 9th January, 2008. A copy of the Resolution dated 9th January, 2008 is enclosed. One of the terms of reference of the Committee deals specifically with the issues of tribal land alienation and traditional rights of the forest dependent tribals, including changes required in the relevant laws for restoration of such lands to them. The Council may lay down broad guidelines and policy recommendations on land reforms, based on the recommendations of the Committee.However,it is not possible to indicate specific time line for the purpose.